



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/528,831	03/23/2005	Woong Kil Cha	9988.214.00-US	3740
30827	7590	10/17/2007		
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP			EXAMINER	
1900 K STREET, NW			KING, ANITA M	
WASHINGTON, DC 20006				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3632	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			10/17/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/528,831	Applicant(s) CHA ET AL.	
	Examiner Anita M. King	Art Unit 3632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 33-49 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-7 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8-15 and 17-32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 July 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

This is the second office action for application number 10/528,831, Leg Assembly for Home Appliance, filed on March 23, 2005.

Drawings

The drawings were received on July 24, 2007. These drawings are acceptable.

Response to Amendment

The indicated allowability of claim 4 is withdrawn in view of the previously cited reference(s) to Borgen. Rejections based on the reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent RE 14,964 to Anderson in view of U.S. Patent 6,155,530 to Borgen. Anderson discloses a leg assembly, capable of use with an electric home appliance, comprising: a leg bolt (12) having a screw (12a) adapted to be coupled with the electric home appliance and a head provided at an end thereof; a pad (19) mad of soft material, the pad closely adhered to the head and being in contact with a floor; at least one holder (14 & 17) coupled with the head and fixing the head and the pad by

Art Unit: 3632

pressing the pad to the head; another head (12b) provided between the screw and the head and having a circumferential surface; wherein the head comprises a flat head (12c) provided at an end of the screw; a platform (12d) projected from the flat head; wherein the flat head is formed in a round plate form; wherein the pad comprises an edge (21) fixed to the head by the holder and a center (18) more projected than the edge and being in contact with the floor; at least one groove (20) provided on at least one of either the head or the pad and a projection (12d) provided on at least one of either the head or the pad and inserted into the groove; wherein the groove and the projection are provided in a long form; and wherein the holder is made of a hard material and has an angled outer circumferential surface.

Anderson discloses the claimed invention except for the limitations of an angled head provided between the screw and the head and having an angled outer circumferential surface and the platform projecting from a center of the flat head. Borgen teaches a leg assembly having a leg bolt (9) including a screw and a head (1), a pad (6), and an angled head (10) provided between the screw and the head and having an angled outer circumferential surface. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the head in Anderson to have been angled as taught by Borgen for the purpose of providing an easier gripping means to conform to a tool used to adjust the leg bolt and because the design incentive or market forces provided a reason to make an adaptation, and the invention resulted from application of prior knowledge in a particular manner.

Art Unit: 3632

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the platform in Anderson to have projected from the center of the flat head rather than the edge for the purpose of providing an alternative aesthetically different appearance to the leg assembly and since there is no criticality provided for this limitation and no unexpected results would have occurred.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-15 and 17-32 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 33-49 are allowed.

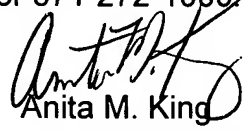
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anita M. King whose telephone number is (571) 272-6817. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Friedman can be reached on (571) 272-6842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3632

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Anita M. King
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632

October 11, 2007